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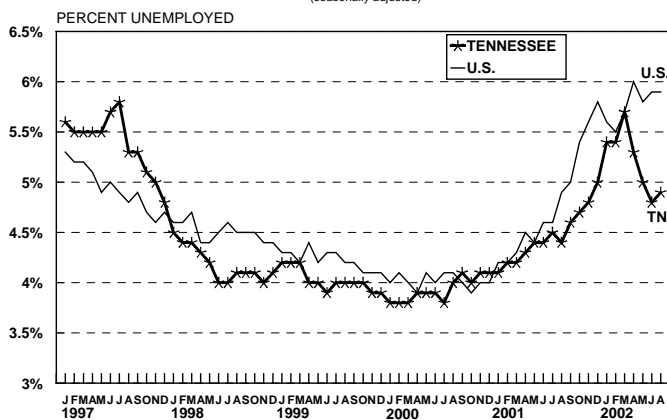
NASHVILLE—Tennessee’s unemployment rate for the month of July is 4.9 percent, up from 4.8 percent in June, Commissioner of Labor & Workforce Development Mark Reineke announced today. The state rate remains below the July national rate of 5.9 percent.

“The unemployment rate rose marginally this month due to declines in manufacturing and seasonal job losses in federal government and state/local educational services,” Reineke said. “The unemployment rate slowly decreased from March to June, but the slight increase in July shows us Tennessee’s economy is similar to the rest of the nation with slow growth.”

June to July figures show employment increased in construction jobs by 600. Hotels/lodging and other local government each increased 500 jobs. Government jobs declined by 12,300, and local education jobs declined by 10,700 due to the summer break.

From July 2001 to July 2002, services grew by 16,300, with the biggest increases in health and business services. Major decreases took place in manufacturing, down by 7,800, with the greatest losses in durable goods. Transportation jobs decreased by 5,100, and construction declined by 2,200.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - U.S. & TENNESSEE
JANUARY 1997 - PRESENT
(seasonally adjusted)



LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

July 2002 (preliminary) - BM2001

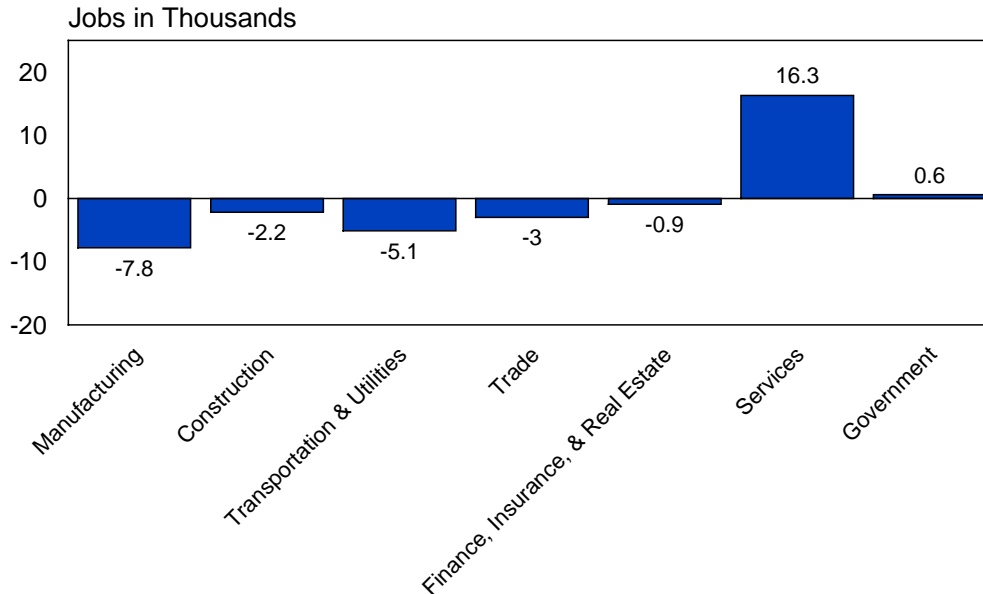
| Seasonally Adjusted | Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | <u>Unemployment Rate</u> | | Rate Change |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------|
| | | | | Jul. | Jun. | |
| UNITED STATES | 142,390,000 | 134,045,000 | 8,345,000 | 5.9 % | 5.9 % | 0.0 % |
| TENNESSEE | 2,877,900 | 2,737,400 | 140,500 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 0.1 |

Not Seasonally Adjusted

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| UNITED STATES | 143,884,000 | 135,289,000 | 8,595,000 | 6.0 % | 6.0 % | 0.0 % |
| TENNESSEE | 2,908,200 | 2,758,400 | 149,800 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 0.0 |

OVER THE YEAR JOB CHANGES

By Major Industry (July 2001-2002)



County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday, August 22, 2002.

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(02-081)

NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures". Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.